GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3425
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2002
RATE OF HEART DISEASE
MAHBOOB ZAHEDI

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that according to study by University of California, Indians have the highest rate of heart disease as compared to Americans, Europeans, Chinese and Japanese;

(b) whether it is a fact that in the below 30 age group, the Coronary Artery Disease mortality among Indians is three-fold higher than in the UK and ten-fold higher than Chinese in Singapore;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 25 percent of heart attacks among Indians occur when they are younger than 40; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to remedy the situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)to(c): Yes, Sir. A number of studies have shown that Indians and other South Asians are more predisposed to Coronary Heart Disease than other ethnic groups like Caucasians (Whites), Afro-caribbeans and Chinese.The mortality of Coronary heart disease has increased in younger patients and those with first heart attacks. The significant proportion of heart attacks in Indians are in patients younger than 40 years of age.

(d): Cardio Vascular diseases are managed at various levels in the Urban Health Care Institutions and Rural Health Care Delivery System in the country both in the public and private sectors. Apart from several district level hospitals, which provide secondary level health care facilities, premier Governemnt hospitals and autonomous institutions like All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi and Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh (PGIMER) provide specialized tertiary care facilities ir the field.